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Wahlenbergia marginata (Thunb.) A. DC. (*Campanulaceae*), a new distributional record to Andhra Pradesh

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ABSTRACT

The present paper deals with the extended distribution of *Wahlenbergia marginata* (Thunb.) A. DC. to Andhra Pradesh, collected from Srikakulam, district.

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While exploring the forests of North Circar districts of Andhra Pradesh during 2017, we could find a curious specimens of *Wahlenbergia* sp. in Seethampeta forests of Srikakulam district, which after critical study was identified as *W. marginata* (Thunb.) A. DC. although the species is known to distribute throughout India, (Krishnamurthy, *et al.*, 2014; Nayar *et al.*, 2014), till date, there no records for its occurrence in the state of Andhra Pradesh (Pullaiah & Karuptusamy, 2018).

Wahlenbergia Schrad. ex Roth belonging to family Campanulaceae comprises about 260 species; the representatives of the genus are found in all continents except North America and dominant in Southern Hemisphere (Mabberley, 2017). In India, the genus is represented by 6 species (Haridasan & Mukherjee, 1996).

Present paper deals with the update nomenclature, technical description, phenology, distribution and voucher specimens collected.

Wahlenbergia marginata (Thunb.) A. DC., Monogr.

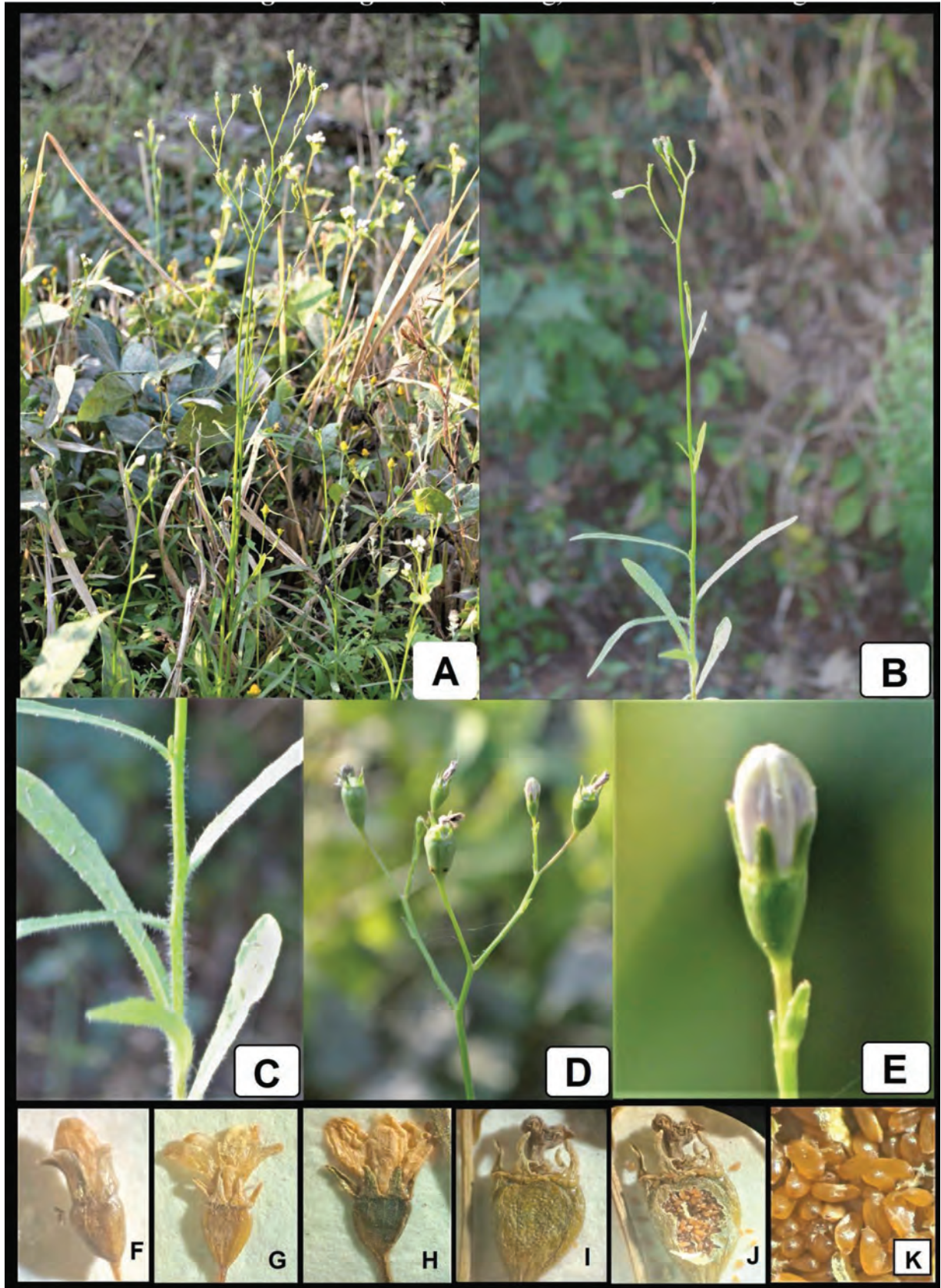
Campan. 143. 1830; Fl. EG 4.4.2011; *Campanula marginata* Thunb; Syst. Veg. (ed. 14) 211.1784 *Wahlenbergia gracilis* (Forst.f.) Schrad.ex A. DC. Monog. Campan. 142. 1830; FBI 3:429.1881; Gamble 2: 738.1921; *Campanula gracilis* G. Forst., Fl. Ins. Austr. 15. 1786.

Perennial herbs with elongate carrot like roots; Stem erect or ascending up to 40 cm long, branched at base, cylindrical to slightly angular, striate, sparsely hirsute; Leaves simple, alternate, mostly on lower part of stem, sessile, Lamina spatulate, oblanceolate, elliptic- linear, 1-6.5 × 0.2-0.7 cm long, margin sparsely serrate or minutely toothed, entire, sinuate, glabrous or sparsely hirsute, strongly one-nerved; Inflorescence axillary and terminal long pedicillated solitary or binate cymes; pedicel up to 20 cm long; Hypanthium conic, obovoid, glabrous. Calyx lobes 0.2-0.4 cm long, triangular or subulate. Corolla blue, broadlycampanulate, 0.3- 1.0 cm long, lobes oblong, obovate; Capsule obconic, subglobose- obovoid, 0.3-0.8 cm long, trilocular; Seeds ellipsoid or oblong, slightly compressed, 0.3-0.5 mm long, smooth, yellowish brown or dark brown.

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A. Herbarium specimen of *Wahlenbergia marginata*



B. *Wahlenbergia marginata* A. Natural habit with other flora, B. Single habit, C. Stem and leaf texture, D. Inflorescence, E. Flower, F-J. Flower maturation stages, K. Seeds

Phenology: Fl. & Fr.: Feb.-May.

Habitat and Abundance: Rare, in wastelands and agricultural fields.

Distribution: World; India (throughout), Bangladesh, China South-Central, China South-East, Japan, Java, Kazan-retto, Korea, Laos, Lesser Sunda Is., Maluku, Myanmar, Nansen-shoto, Nepal, New Guinea, Ogasawara-shoto, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Sulawesi, Taiwan, Thailand, Vietnam.

Specimen examined: 53110 (SKU), 08-02-2017, Sirikonda outskirts (Palasa- Seethampeta), Srikakulam district, Andhra Pradesh, India, coll. BR & PA.

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